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The Franklin Press has been serving the people of Macon County.

The Franklin Press

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Dedication Program Given At Frazier Community Center

NYA Project For Colored People Is Spacious Building

The community center for the colored citizens of Macon county, built under the National Youth Administration, was dedicated last Sunday afternoon with a capacity audience—including a large number of white citizens—filling the large auditorium. A glowing fire of logs in the huge stone fireplace heated the entire building. Out-of-town visitors included George M. Suggs, district supervisor NYA and Mrs. Suggs, and W. M. Turner, district safety property officer and Mrs. Turner, all of Asheville.

Frazier Community Center
Frazier Community Center is the name chosen for the building, it was announced, in memory of the late W. W. Frazier of Philadelphia, a philanthropist and benefactor of the southern Negro, who was the original donor of the land upon which the center is built. The lot was deeded to the county by the trustees of the Episcopal church in Western North Carolina for the purpose of establishing a recreational center.

The Rev. Frank Bloxham expressed the hope that the surrounding property, given more than 50 years ago for the benefit of the colored citizens of Macon county, would now be put to good use for their recreation and welfare.

H. R. Kemp, Jr., principal of Chapel school, presided at the meeting. In expressing appreciation to the individuals and agencies sharing in the accomplishment of the project, the speaker called attention to the fact that this dedication was fittingly celebrated in Interracial Month, referring to the happy race relations in this community. He cited the instance that both white and Negro boys had worked under NYA in the construction of the building for many months without so much as a cross word or unkind act.

Prof. Kemp called attention to the spacious building constructed of stone and chestnut logs, 30x70 feet, with auditorium large enough to seat large numbers as well as for recreational purposes. Separate rooms are provided in the rear for a library and kitchen. Recognition of the work of Mrs. James Ordway, county NYA supervisor and her assistants was cited.

Address of Dedication
The Rev. J. H. Smith, pastor of a large colored church in Sylva, delivering the principal address of dedication, made an eloquent appeal to his people to sustain their Christian ideals in their educational and recreational activities.

Mr. Suggs, of the National Youth Administration, in delivering the key of the building to Guy L. Houk, for the county, referred to the project as a demonstration of democracy, where many citizens and agencies cooperated in making the enterprise possible. Mr. Houk, superintendent of education, accepted the building on behalf of the county and congratulated all upon the achievement. He stated that the Chapel school for Negroes, located on property adjoining the community building, was the third largest school in the county, stressing the value of the building for young and old alike, for activities that would otherwise be impossible.

Jeter Love, president of Chapel school P. T. A., sponsor of the project, and Andrew Ray, chairman of the committee for raising funds, thanked all who had contributed, collecting an additional offering of \$54 from the audience towards paying a balance due on building material.

During the program many spirituals were sung by the glee club, the audience singing the Negro national hymn at the close.

Chas. Melichar Attends Conference In Asheville

Charles Melichar, supervisor of the Nantahala National Forest, attended a state-federal wildlife conference in Asheville yesterday composed of federal and state game and forest officials. The conferring groups, headed by J. C. Kircher, of Atlanta, decided to continue the state-federal wildlife agreement of 1937, under which "substantial progress" has been made in bringing wildlife back to Western North Carolina.

The department of commerce estimates that the nation's income for 1939 shows an increase of 7 per cent over the previous year.

M. E. Crusade

Creating Much Interest In Franklin

The Methodist Church Loyalty Crusade is creating much interest among the Methodist people. The pastor states that the attendance last Sunday exceeded anything he has witnessed in this church since he began his pastorate here. The congregation was moved both to laughter and tears by the sermon, and the attention with which the message was received seemed to indicate that those who heard it would be persuaded to live better lives.

Next Sunday the pastor will preach on Spiritualism. He will answer the question, "Can the Living Communicate With the Dead?" Such a subject is seldom discussed from a pulpit, and this discussion will be heard with much eagerness by those who want to know the real facts and understand what the Bible teaches about it. Such an unusual sermon should be welcomed, and many will be present to hear it.

In connection with this subject the pastor has promised to demonstrate the mystery of Spirit slate writing, and the answering of questions in sealed envelopes. This demonstration will be given at the young people's service in the church basement. The hour is 7:30, and the service is open to the public.

The pastor says that those who are easily frightened or have weak hearts are to come at their own risk.

Craft School To Be Held In Franklin

A series of lessons in handicrafts will be given at the craft center in Franklin which is located over Reeves' Hardware store. This school will open Monday, March 4, at 9 a. m. and will close Friday, March 8.

This project is sponsored by the home demonstration clubs of Macon county, however, any person who is interested may attend these meetings.

Instructions will be given in weaving. Three looms are now in use each Thursday when the regular lessons are given by Mrs. Carl Slagle and Mrs. Hunter Calloway. New equipment has been purchased for the metal craft. Basketry and chair bottoming will also be included for those who are interested.

Miss Anna Rowe, district home agent, will be in Franklin for the last two days of the school.

"Hillbillies" To Appear At Macon Theatre

The "Colorado Hillbillies" are coming to the Macon Theatre Tuesday, March 5, with an all-star cast direct from Ruby Vallee's program and Republic Pictures, starring Gene Autry.

Starring this novelty bunch is Lil' Abner Wilder, a lean, long, lanky banjo playing comic, who will amuse you with his barn yard imitations and rural collection of jokes and songs. He is supported by an all-star cast. Pappy Hoag, the fiddle playing "Old Man Droopy Pants"; Geb, the featured accordionist and his \$1,000 accordion; Rufe Cline, hillbilly tenor and his doghouse; the singing and yodeling hillbilly girls, Fanny Potts and Jenny Schafer, who are really tops in holding up their end of the act. Last, but not least, is Walt Shrum, manager of this brainstormy backwoods symphony, who finds his hands quite full to keep them all at arms length.

Mrs. J. B. Collins Injured In Fall

Mrs. J. B. Collins is reported to be in a critical condition at her home in the lota community, suffering from broken legs received in a fall on Friday afternoon about 4 o'clock.

She had been confined to her bed for several months, but was slightly improved and asked to get up and walk around in another room. Her legs gave way and in the fall both thighs were broken.

Funds For Finnish Relief Total \$83.71

Mayor J. Frank Ray, chairman of the Finnish Relief Fund in Franklin reports that a total of \$83.71 has been sent in to headquarters. Mr. Ray expresses appreciation to all who responded to this appeal, and states that he will be glad to receive other contributions to the fund.

STREET WORK STARTS SOON

Public Square Will Be Paved, Much Other Work Done

At a called meeting of the mayor and aldermen held Monday night several important matters in connection with the street improvement program were discussed and decided upon.

The following projects were passed for immediate action: Pave the public square.

Finish curb and paving on street running from Main to Palmer between jail and Bryant Furniture company.

Put rock on short street running from Main to Palmer on town hill toward depot.

Finish rock work on Bidwell, Porter and lotla streets.

The matter of work to be done by the town on Harrison avenue in connection with the state highway department was discussed and it was decided to wait for a consultation with highway authorities before making a decision.

James Fowler, now a resident of Franklin, but formerly an engineer employed by the city of Knoxville, Tenn., was appointed as engineer in charge of the street work. Mr. Fowler is a graduate in engineering of the University of Tennessee, and has had much experience in street construction.

It is understood that work on the street projects will be started within the next few days.

St. Agnes Auxiliary To Hold Rummage Sale

The Woman's Auxiliary of St. Agnes' church will hold a rummage sale each afternoon next week—Monday through Friday—3 to 5 o'clock each day, in the curb market building on Main street. A variety of useful clothing and shoes will be on sale.

As The World Turns

A Brief Survey of Current Events In State, Nation and Abroad.

RUSSIAN GAINS IN FINLAND

Late dispatches report heavy offensives of the reinforced Red army as bending the second line of defense approaching Viipuri. This territory has been evacuated by civilians. The eastern line is holding.

PORTENTOUS MOVEMENTS ON WESTERN FRONT

Heavy artillery, increased air activity and the massing of German troops indicate unusual movements on the Belgian and Dutch border. Crossing of the border between these neutral countries and Germany has been stopped, all German civilians ordered home. It is rumored that the Siegfried Line is being lengthened.

BRITAIN'S CONTRABAND CONTROL

Britain has opened negotiations to establish contraband control bases on the Canadian west coast, with a view of checking traffic from the U. S. and other Pacific territories to Russia.

CANADIANS IN FINLAND

The first volunteers of Canada have arrived in Finland.

A ROOSEVELT TO COMMAND FINNISH VOLUNTEERS

The Finnish Aid commission in London has announced that Major Kermit Roosevelt, son of President Theodore Roosevelt, will command British volunteer forces in Finland. Another son, Quentin, lost his life fighting with the air forces of the Allies in the World War.

SUMNER WELLES' MISSION

Assistant Secretary of State Welles has interviewed Mussolini, and today is scheduled to talk to Hitler. He will return to Rome for a second conference with Mussolini besides visiting London and Paris for diplomatic interviews. The nature of the mission is reported to be fact-finding and exploratory, with no direct proposal towards a peace move.

MYRON C. TAYLOR'S MISSION

Crossing on the same boat via Gibraltar with Welles, Myron C. Taylor established himself in Rome as President Roosevelt's "channel

MACON TO GET NEW SCHOOLS

WPA Allots Funds For Erection Of Two Buildings

It has been announced by Congressman Weaver in Washington that President Roosevelt has approved two WPA school building projects in Macon county, one at Otto and the other at West's Mill.

The Otto allotment calls for \$34,032 and that at West's Mill for \$27,726.

As approved, the projects will include construction of the buildings, improvement of school grounds, painting, installation of plumbing, electrical and heating equipment and sewage disposal facilities, and other needed improvements.

The projects sponsored by the county board of education, will be launched as soon as funds are allocated by state WPA Director C. C. McGinnis.

These projects are the first in a program of school building for the county which has been mapped out by County Superintendent of Schools Guy L. Houk and the board of education. Mr. Houk states that he will have a detailed statement in regard to the proposed work ready for publication next week.

Macon Shoe Shop In New Location

The Macon Shoe Shop, which has been located, in the building on the Munday Hotel lot, has purchased from Bob Houston the shop formerly owned by Troy Horn in the Asher building and has moved all equipment from the Munday building to the Horn stand. They state that they appreciate the business given them at their old location and ask their customers and friends to call on them at their new place, where they are better prepared than ever to serve the public.

Lions Club Hears Interesting Talk On Scout Work

At the regular semi-monthly dinner meeting held Monday night at Cagle's Cafe, the Franklin Lions Club listened with great interest and profit to a talk by the Rev. Frank Bloxham concerning his work with the local troop of Boy Scouts for the past six years.

Mr. Bloxham stated that he had been given able assistance at various times by interested citizens, notably James Hauser, Dr. W. E. Furr and some officials of the forest service, but that at the present time most of the parents and the general public in Franklin seemed to be showing little interest in the troop, which is one of the best in the state.

The speaker called attention to a story in a recent issue of a daily newspaper which stated that Morganton had eight Eagle Scouts, and claimed that no other town of equal size had that number. Mr. Bloxham said that Franklin, a much smaller town, had eight boys who had attained Eagle rank and would soon have 13. He appealed for cooperation and assistance in training the boys of the troop, and several members of the club volunteered to give instruction along various lines.

Mr. Bloxham received his training in Scout work in England, where the movement started, and the Macon county boys under his direction have made records that are a credit to him, to themselves and to the county.

Girl Scouts Are Busy On New Projects

By MRS. CHARLES MELICHAR

Several new projects are under way in Franklin's four Girl Scout and Brownie troops. A "Care of Books" project is being initiated and a court of honor planned by all troops.

Brownie girls, under Mrs. Tom McCollum, having finished making valentines, started this week making paper sail boats that really sail. Mrs. John Wasilik's group assisted by Mrs. Dick Jones making hand puppets. Mrs. Jones, experienced in making and showing puppets, started the girls on the project by displaying puppets of her own which created immediate enthusiasm. The girls will be assisted in making a puppet stage by Rev. I. L. Roberts.

The officers elected by Mrs. Wasilik's troop are: Barbara Stockton, patrol leader; Louise Pendergrass, treasurer; Betty Horsley, secretary and acting assistant patrol leader; Mary Frances Page, reporter; leaders for attendance contest, Ida Mae Dowdle and Betty Jane Waldroop.

Sarah Conley's group in preparation for their court of honor have been working on a stunt that is a deep mystery and that has created much speculation not only in the other troops, but among the parents. Elizabeth Wasilik has been chief assistant in working out the project. The officers elected for this troop are Sarah Frances Cunningham, president; Carolyn Long, vice-president; Carolyn Long, secretary-treasurer, and Frances Furr, assistant secretary.

Senior Girl Scouts, under Mrs. Chas. Melichar, have been working as a club on folk dancing. The Highland Fling is being practised at meetings and will be used with costumes for various projects later. Mrs. Ben McGlamery and Mrs. C. N. Dowdle are assisting this group with plans for the immediate future. Recently elected officers are president, Dot Sloan; vice-president, Mary Evelyn Angel; secretary-treasurer, Jessie Barnard; assistant secretary-treasurer, Byrda Nell Southards.

All scouts are working on rank and merit badges in preparation for their court of honor, the date of which will be announced soon, and to which parents will be invited. The "Care of Books" project by the scouts is in appreciation of the fine library given by Mrs. Angie W. Cox to the town, and which has been used and enjoyed so much. The Girl Scouts ask for the cooperation of the Boy Scouts and other young people of the town in backing the movement. The following girls have been appointed to demonstrate the proper care of books in the school rooms: Sally Lou Moore, Inez Crawford, Ida Mae Dowdle, Elizabeth Wasilik, Louise Pendergrass, Betty Horsley, Joann Bryson, Marion Carr, Mary Frances Page, Betty Jane Waldroop, Lillian Jones, Dorothy Conley, Joanne Palmer and Barbara Stockton.

Get Your Part

Of the money spent in Franklin. An ad in The Press will bring it in.

WRECK KILLS H. B. NEELY, 62

Highlands Man Fatally Hurt When Truck Overtakes

H. Benson Neely, 62, of Highlands, who was injured Friday night when the truck he was driving left the highway and overturned, died in Angel hospital Sunday afternoon. The accident occurred on the Highlands-Dillard road.

Investigating officers said the truck was traveling toward Highlands at a speed of about 30 miles an hour when its left rear fender was struck by a passing car which failed to stop. The jolt forced the truck on the soft shoulder of the road, Mr. Neely lost control of it, and it turned over twice down a 20-foot embankment before landing on its wheels.

Albert Eugene Barnes, 29, also of Highlands, who was riding in the pick-up truck that Mr. Neely was driving, suffered a fracture of the left shoulder blade and a severe chest injury. Although his condition is serious, Angel hospital attaches say that he is expected to recover.

A resident of the neighborhood, a Mr. Williams, heard the crash and summoned assistance, and the injured men were rushed to the hospital.

Mr. Neely was born at Seneca, S. C., June 9, 1877, the son of William S. Neely and Nancy Picklesimer Neely. December 2, 1898, he married Miss Mary Anne Brooks, who survives him. Surviving also are three children, W. R. Neely, West Virginia; Mrs. T. R. Hunt, Franklin, and Mrs. Sidney McCarty, Jr., Highlands; four brothers, Louis, Preston, Stinson and George Neely, all of Highlands; four sisters, Mrs. J. B. Watkins and Mrs. Charles McKinney, Highlands; Mrs. Oscar Nix, Satolah, Ga., and Mrs. Wilburn McCall, Greenville, S. C., and seven grandchildren.

Mr. Neely was a member of Highlands Methodist church and the Junior Order United American Mechanics.

Funeral services for Mr. Neely were held at the Methodist church in Highlands at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon, with the Rev. J. S. Higgins, pastor, officiating. Mr. Higgins was assisted by Rev. J. G. Benfield and Rev. R. B. DuPree. Burial was in Highlands cemetery.

Pallbearers were Steve Potts, F. A. Edwards, J. E. Hicks, T. M. Keener, Barney Wilson and Mack Pierson.

Honorary pallbearers were S. P. Pierson, Virgil Ramey, Mack Edwards, Elmer McDowell, Sr.; S. E. Potts, Mack Wilson, Zeke Shuler, and W. P. Pierson.

Mrs. R. B. DuPree had charge of the music, and the flowers were in charge of Mrs. Florence McKinney and Mrs. Harry Holt.

Baptist Ministers To Meet Here Monday

The Macon County Baptist Ministerial conference will meet at the Franklin Baptist church Monday, March 4, at 11 a. m.

Rev. C. F. Rogers will lead in a period of Bible study.

All Baptist preachers in Macon county are urged to be present, as there will be important business to discuss.

The ladies of the Franklin Baptist church will serve lunch.

Future Farmers Hold Meeting At Sylva

By BERLIN WELCH

The Smoky Mountain Federation Future Farmers' chapter met at Sylva Wednesday, February 21, and held its monthly meeting.

Delegates from Franklin Future Farmers' Chapter were Wayne Bradley, Roy Fouts, H. D. Corbin and Harry Kinsland, with Mr. Whitmire the adviser. Wayne Bradley acted as adviser of the Federation Chapter and Roy Fouts, secretary.

They discussed and revised the old Federation constitution and made some additions. This discussion was led by Roy Fouts, lasted for two and one-half hours.

They settled the date and place of the tournament which is to be at Sylva high school March 9.

Had music from Fine's Creek and Bryson City Chapters string bands. The Franklin Future Farmer Chapter is planning to win the victory at the tournament. The possible line up is, Roy Fouts, Raymond Culver, Claude Leatherman, Frank Crisp, Wayne Bradley and Cecil Duvall.